

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-129 (Canceled)

130. (Previously Presented) A method for a device to interdependently validate a piece of digital content and a corresponding digital license for rendering the digital content, the digital content being encrypted, the encrypted digital content being decryptable according to a decryption key (KD) and being packaged in a digital content package, the digital content package being provided by a content provider having a public key (PU-C) and a private key (PR-C), the digital license being provided by a license provider having a public key (PU-L) and a private key (PR-L), the device having a public key (PU-D) and a private key (PR-D), the digital content package comprising:

the encrypted digital content; and

the content provider public key (PU-C) encrypted with the decryption key (KD) and signed by the content provider private key (PR-C) (i.e., (KD (PU-C) S (PR-C)));

the digital license comprising:

the decryption key (KD) encrypted with the device public key (PU-D) (i.e., (PU-D (KD)));

a digital signature from the license provider (without any attached certificate) based on (KD (DRL)) and (PU-D (KD)) and encrypted with the license provider private key (i.e., (S (PR-L))); and

a certificate containing the license provider public key (PU-L) and signed by the content provider private key (PR-C) (i.e., (CERT (PU-L) S (PR-C)));

the method comprising:

- obtaining (PU-D (KD)) from the license;
- applying (PR-D) to (PU-D (KD)) to produce (KD);
- obtaining (KD (PU-C) S (PR-C)) from the digital content package;
- applying (KD) to (KD (PU-C) S (PR-C)) to produce (PU-C);
- applying (PU-C) to (S (PR-C)) to validate (KD (PU-C) S (PR-C)), thereby validating the digital content package;
- obtaining (CERT (PU-L) S (PR-C)) from the license;
- applying (PU-C) to (CERT (PU-L) S (PR-C)) to validate (CERT (PU-L) S (PR-C)), thereby validating the content provider, and also to obtain (PU-L);
- obtaining (S (PR-L)) from the license; and
- applying (PU-L) to (S (PR-L)), thereby validating the license.

131. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 130 wherein the digital content package further comprises a content / package ID identifying one of the digital content and the digital content package, and wherein the license further comprises the content / package ID of the corresponding digital content / digital content package, the method further comprising ensuring that the content / package ID of the license in fact corresponds to the content / package ID of the digital content / digital content package.

132. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 130 wherein the license further comprises a license rights description (DRL) specifying terms and conditions that must be satisfied before the digital content may be rendered, the method further comprising;

evaluating the license terms and conditions to determine whether the digital content is permitted to be rendered in the manner sought;

if so, applying (KD) to the encrypted digital content to decrypt such encrypted digital content; and

rendering the decrypted digital content.

133. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 132 wherein the license rights description is encrypted with the decryption key (KD) (i.e., (KD (DRL))), the method further comprising applying (KD) to (KD (DRL)) to obtain the license terms and conditions.

134-157 (Canceled)